Mararikulam Mahadeva temple, Alappuzha, Kerala

Info is given under following headings:

Location, address, phone, how to get there. Greatness of this temple. Legends and history. Architecture of temple deities. Sub-deities daily rituals and poojas and their charges ..special poojas and rituals and their charges.. festivals, facilities for devotees...like accommodation etc. Donation info and bank acct number etc. Nearby temples. Other tourist attractions. Nearby budget hotels. Any other info...etc

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AI Overview

The Mararikulam Mahadeva Temple is an ancient, roughly 700-year-old Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Shiva, located near Marari Beach in Alappuzha, Kerala. Known for its unique, traditional Kerala-style architecture with intricate wooden carvings, it is famous as the only temple where Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvathi are positioned face-to-face.

Key Highlights:

- **Deity:** Lord Shiva (also known as Marari).
- **Unique Feature:** The sanctum sanctorum features Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvathi facing each other.
- **Location:** Mararikulam North, Alappuzha, Kerala.
- **Significance:** It is considered one of the 108 ancient Shiva temples in Kerala.
- **Festival:** The Sivarathri festival is prominently celebrated here.
- **Architecture:** The temple features traditional sloping tiled roofs and wooden carvings.

The temple is well-maintained by the local community and offers a serene, spiritual atmosphere near the coast. It is easily accessible and located in the scenic Mararikulam area.

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Mararikulam Sree Mahadeva Temple (also known as Mararikulam Mahadeva Temple or Mararikkulam Sree Mahadeva Temple), a prominent ancient Shiva temple in Alappuzha district, Kerala.

Note that the name is commonly spelled "Mararikulam" rather than "Marikakulam."

Location, Address, Phone

Location: Mararikulam North (or Mararikulam), a serene coastal village in the Cherthala taluk, Alappuzha district, Kerala. It is about 16 km north of Alappuzha town and near the famous Marari Beach.

Full Address: Mararikulam Sree Mahadeva Temple, Mararikulam North P.O., Alappuzha, Kerala 688549 (or 688523 in some references). Approximate coordinates: J828+MHH, Mararikulam N, Alappuzha.

Phone: +91 478 286 2634 (commonly listed contact number for inquiries).

How to Get There

By Air: Nearest airport is Cochin International Airport (COK), about 70-80 km north. From there, take a taxi or bus to Alappuzha/Cherthala, then local transport to Mararikulam.

By Train: Alappuzha (Alleppey) Railway Station (~15-20 km south) or Cherthala Railway Station (closer, ~10-15 km). Autos, taxis, or local buses are available from these stations.

By Road: Well-connected via NH66. From Alappuzha, head north towards Cherthala; Mararikulam is accessible by bus, auto-rickshaw, or taxi.
The temple is in a village setting, so local transport is convenient.

Local options: Autos and cabs are readily available; the area is near Marari Beach, so many visitors combine the two.

Greatness of This Temple

This is one of the most revered ancient Shiva temples in Kerala, believed to be among the 108 ancient Shiva temples (Parashurama Kshetras) consecrated by Lord Parashurama.

It is famous for its spiritual potency, where devotees believe prayers and wishes (especially for fulfillment and well-being) are granted.

It holds significant cultural and religious importance in the region, attracting locals and tourists for its serene atmosphere and devotion to Lord Shiva (locally called "Marari Devan").

Legends and History

According to tradition and folklore, the temple is one of the ancient shrines installed by Sage Parashurama, who is credited with creating Kerala's temples and consecrating many Shiva lingams.

It is part of the legendary 108 Shiva temples of Kerala.
Some sources mention it dates back centuries (possibly 700+ years in folklore), with the current structure having historical roots in the region's ancient heritage. It is considered a "century-old" or ancient important temple in Alappuzha district records.

Architecture of Temple, Deities

Architecture: Traditional Kerala style with intricate wood carvings, terracotta elements, and ornate features.
It features a majestic gopuram (gateway tower), a deep sandy courtyard, and beautiful sculptures. Notable elements include a huge grey head/sculpture of Lord Shiva at one entrance, colorful bunting, and a small caged Nandi (bull vehicle of Shiva).
The sanctum and overall design reflect ancient Vishwakarma craftsmanship.

Main Deity: Lord Shiva (Mahadeva / Sree Mahadeva) as the presiding deity, with Goddess Parvati (often positioned facing or alongside Shiva in a unique arrangement where Parvati looks toward Shiva).

Sub-deities: Nandikeswarar (Nandi), and other typical sub-shrines common in Shiva temples (e.g., possible Ganapati, etc., though specifics vary; the temple is primarily Shiva-focused).

Daily Rituals and Poojas and Their Charges

The temple follows traditional Kerala temple rituals with **three main daily poojas**: Usha Pooja (morning), Ucha Pooja (noon), and Athazha Pooja (evening/night).

Temple Timings: Generally opens around 4:30-5:00 AM and closes around 8:00-8:45 PM (may vary seasonally; e.g., adjusted in winter months).

Common offerings include favorites like Koovalamaala (bilva leaves garland), Pinvilakku, Koottu Payasam, Thrikkayyu Venna, Oru Divasam Pooja, Oru Neram Pooja.

Charges for specific poojas/offerings are not uniformly listed online and can vary; devotees typically inquire directly at the temple counter or via phone for current rates (often nominal for standard archana, abhishekam, etc.).

Special Poojas and Rituals and Their Charges

Special poojas are conducted during festivals or on request (e.g., special abhishekam, homams).
Details on exact charges are best obtained from the temple directly, as they fluctuate and are managed by the temple trust/devaswom.

Festivals

Major festivals include:

- Maha Shivaratri (grand celebrations with special poojas, cultural events like Kathakali/Chakyar Koothu, annadanam).
- Thiruvathira.
- Ashtami Rohini.
- Navaratri.

- Annual Thiru Utsavam (festival) with processions, Aarattu (holy bath ritual), special poojas, offerings, and annadanam (free meals) throughout.
- Festivals feature traditional performing arts and draw large crowds.

Facilities for Devotees (e.g., Accommodation)

Basic facilities like drinking water, pooja item shops, and nearby restaurants are available.

The temple has a serene environment for prayer.

No large-scale on-site accommodation is prominently mentioned; devotees often stay in nearby hotels/resorts due to its proximity to Marari Beach tourist area.

Donation Info and Bank Account Number

Donations are accepted for temple maintenance, festivals, and offerings.
Specific bank account details are not publicly listed in general sources for security reasons.

Contact the temple directly via phone (+91 478 286 2634) or visit in person for donation/Hundi contributions or specific trust accounts.

Nearby Temples

- Other Shiva temples in Alappuzha district, such as Mannancherry Thrikovil Mahadeva Temple, Thirunagamkulangara Mahadeva Temple (Vayalar), or Thrichattukulam Mahadeva Temple.
- Local shrines in Cherthala area.

Other Tourist Attractions

- Marari Beach (very close, famous serene beach with golden sands and blue waters).
- Alappuzha Backwaters, houseboat cruises.
- Alleppey town attractions like Alappuzha Beach, Krishnapuram Palace.

Nearby Budget Hotels

Mararikulam/Marari area has many budget and mid-range options due to beach tourism:

Beachside homestays, resorts, and guesthouses (e.g., options starting from ₹1500-4000/night).

Search for "Marari Beach budget hotels" or areas like Mararikulam North/Cherthala for places like Marari Beach Resort (higher end) or local homestays. Alappuzha town (~15 km) has more budget choices like hotels near the railway station.

Any Other Info

The temple is peaceful and less crowded compared to major tourist temples, making it ideal for spiritual visits.
It combines well with a beach trip.
For the latest pooja schedules, festival dates, or bookings, call the temple or check local Kerala tourism resources.
Devotees often praise its unique Shiva-Parvati arrangement and fulfilling prayers.

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Ref: ChatGpt

Mararikulam Mahadeva Temple
(Alappuzha District, Kerala)

1. Location

Mararikulam Mahadeva Temple is a well-known ancient Shiva temple situated near the famous Marari Beach in Alappuzha district of Kerala.
The temple is revered by local devotees and pilgrims visiting the coastal region.

2. **Address**

Mararikulam Mahadeva Temple
Mararikulam South
Cherthala Taluk
Alappuzha District
Kerala – 688523
India

3. **Phone / Contact**

Temple administration generally comes under the Travancore Devaswom Board.
Typical contact points:
Temple Office: +91 478-288**** (local temple office number – may vary)
Travancore Devaswom Board Alappuzha Office: +91 477-225****
(It is advisable to confirm numbers locally as temple offices sometimes change numbers.)

4. **How to Reach**

By Air
Nearest airport: Cochin International Airport – about 70 km.

By Train

Nearest railway stations:

Mararikulam Railway Station – about 3 km
Alappuzha Railway Station – about 15 km

By Road

Alappuzha – about 14 km
Cherthala – about 10 km
Kochi – about 45 km
KSRTC and private buses operate between Alappuzha, Cherthala and Mararikulam.

5. **Greatness of the Temple**

The temple is considered an ancient coastal Shiva temple believed to be several centuries old.

Lord Shiva is worshipped here as Mahadeva, the compassionate destroyer of ignorance.

Devotees believe that worship here helps remove obstacles, sins and planetary afflictions

Many fishermen and coastal residents regard the deity as their protector from sea-related dangers.

The temple atmosphere is very peaceful and traditional, following the Tantric Kerala temple rituals.

6. **Legends and History**

According to local legends:

Discovery of the Shiva Lingam
It is believed that the Shiva Lingam was discovered by local villagers many centuries ago in a sacred grove near the sea.
The place was considered divine, and a temple was gradually constructed there.

Association with Sages

Some traditions say that ancient sages performing penance in the coastal forests worshipped Lord Shiva here.

Protection of Fishermen

Another popular belief among locals is that Lord Mahadeva protects fishermen before they venture into the sea, and many fishermen pray here before beginning their work.

Over the centuries the temple was renovated several times by local rulers and devotees.

7. **Architecture of the Temple**

The temple follows traditional Kerala temple architecture.

Important features include:

• Sreekovil (Sanctum Sanctorum) – houses the Shiva Lingam
• Namaskara Mandapam – prayer hall in front of the sanctum
• Chuttambalam – enclosed temple courtyard
• Deepasthambham – lamp pillar
• Balikkal (sacrificial stone)
• Temple pond

The structure uses laterite stone, wooden carvings and copper-covered roofs, typical of Kerala temples.

8. **Main Deity**

Lord Shiva (Mahadeva)
The Shiva Lingam is worshipped in a serene and powerful form.

9. **Sub-Deities**

The temple also houses shrines for:
• Ganapathi (Ganesha)
• Subrahmanya (Murugan)
• Bhagavathy (Devi)
• Naga Devatas (Serpent deities)
• Ayyappa

These shrines attract devotees seeking blessings for various purposes.

10. **Daily Rituals and Poojas**

Typical daily schedule (may slightly vary):

Morning:

- Nirmalyam
- Abhishekam
- Usha Pooja
- Pantheeradi Pooja

Evening:

- Deeparadhana
- Athazha Pooja

Temple generally opens:

Morning: 5:00 am – 10:30 am
Evening: 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Typical Pooja Offerings (Approx charges)

Pooja
Approx Charge
Archana
₹20 – ₹30
Abhishekam
₹100 – ₹300
Ganapathi Homam
₹300 – ₹600
Mrityunjaya Homam
₹700 – ₹1200
Pushpanjali
₹50 – ₹100
(Charges may change; confirm at temple counter.)

11. **Special Poojas and Rituals**

Important special offerings include:

• Rudrabhishekam
• Mrityunjaya Homam
• Navagraha Pooja
• Bhagavathy Seva
• Milk Abhishekam
• Naga Pooja

These are performed for health, removal of obstacles, and prosperity.

12. **Festivals**

Major festivals celebrated include:

Mahashivaratri
The most important festival of the temple.
Features include:
Special abhishekams
Night-long worship
Cultural programs

Annual Temple Festival
A traditional Kerala style Utsavam lasting several days with:
• Caparisoned elephants

• Temple percussion (Chenda melam)
• Processions
• Cultural performances

Pradosham
Observed twice every month and considered very auspicious for Shiva worship.

13. **Facilities for Devotees**

Facilities available include:

• Parking space
• Temple pond for rituals
• Prasadam counter
• Small shops selling flowers and pooja items
• Seating areas

Accommodation

The temple itself usually does not maintain large accommodation facilities, but many options are available nearby because Mararikulam is a popular tourist area.

14. **Donation Information**

Devotees can contribute through:

• Temple donation counter
• Offerings for poojas
• Festival contributions
Since many Kerala temples are managed by Travancore Devaswom Board, donations may also be made through their official channels.
Specific bank account or UPI details are usually available only at the temple office.

15. **Nearby Temples**

Important temples nearby include:

• Ambalappuzha Sri Krishna Temple – famous Krishna temple
• Mullakkal Rajarajeswari Temple – Alappuzha
• Mannarasala Nagaraja Temple – serpent temple
• Cherthala Karthyayani Devi Temple

16. **Nearby Tourist Attractions**

Mararikulam is a famous tourist destination.
Important places include:
• Marari Beach – very popular and scenic
• Alappuzha Backwaters

• Alappuzha Beach
• Pathiramanal Island
• Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary

17. **Nearby Budget Hotels**

Budget accommodation options:

• Marari Beach Resort area guest houses
• Marari Beach Homestays
• Abad Turtle Beach Resort (budget rooms sometimes available)
• Hotels in Alappuzha town

Many economical homestays are available in Mararikulam village.

18. **Other Useful Information**

• Traditional Kerala temple dress code is recommended.
• Men often enter sanctum area without shirts.
• Photography may be restricted inside the temple.
• Early morning worship is considered very auspicious.

The temple is also visited by tourists staying at Marari Beach, making it a blend of spiritual and cultural experience.

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Ref: Google Gemini

The Mararikulam Sree Mahadeva Temple is a serene and ancient spiritual landmark in Kerala. It is particularly famous for its unique layout where Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati sit face-to-face.

1. **Location & Accessibility**

* **Address**: Mararikulam Sree Mahadeva Temple, Mararikulam North P.O., Alappuzha, Kerala - 688549.
* **Phone**: +91-478-2862634 / +91-478-2869087

* **How to Get There:**

* **By Road**: Located 1 km west of NH-66 at Mararikulam Junction. It is roughly 11 km from Alappuzha town and 15 km from Cherthala.
* **By Rail**: Mararikulam Railway Station is just 1.5 km away.
* **By Air**: Cochin International Airport (COK) is approximately 75 km away.

2. **History & Greatness**

Believed to be nearly 700 years old, this temple is one of the 108 ancient Shiva temples in Kerala.
According to tradition, it was consecrated by Lord Parasurama and later developed by the sage Vilwamangalam Swami.

Its primary "greatness" lies in the Arattu (holy bath) ritual, which is uniquely performed in the Arabian Sea rather than a temple pond or river—a rare phenomenon for Kerala temples.

3. **Legends & Deities**

* **Main Deity**: Lord Shiva, worshipped here as Marari (the "Killer of Cupid" or Kamari). He is depicted in a meditative state after the sacrifice of Sati.

* **Goddess Parvati**: She resides here in Swayamvara Bhava (seeking her husband). The two deities face each other, symbolizing the eternal bond and blessing of marriage.
* **Sub-Deities**: Lord Ayyappa (Sastha), Sree Dhanwanthari, Lord Subramanya, Navagrahas, Yakshi, and Naga Kanyaka.

4. **Architecture**

The temple follows traditional Kerala-style architecture. It features:

* Intricate wood carvings and a tiled roof.
* A tranquil sanctum sanctorum (Sreekovil) where the "self-originated" (Swayambhu) idols reside.
* Circular (Vatta) structure for the main shrine, typical of old Dravidian designs.

5. **Rituals, Poojas & Charges**

* **Daily Timings:** Opens at 4:30 AM. Closes at 11:30 AM. Reopens at 5:00 PM and closes at 8:00 PM.
* **Key Poojas**:
  * Swayamvara Pooja & Thalicharthu: Highly sought after for removing hurdles in marriage.
  * Usha Pooja (6:00 AM) and Sheeveli (7:30 AM).
* Indicative Charges: Basic Archana starts around ₹10-₹50, while specialized poojas like Vidhyarabham or marriage-related rituals range from ₹150 to ₹500+.
  > **Note**: Exact charges fluctuate; it is best to check the current rate board at the temple counter.
  >

6. **Festivals & Facilities**
* **Annual Fehstival**: A 10-day spectacular event in the Malayalam month of Kumbham (February/March), culminating in the sea Arattu.
* **Key Days**: Maha Sivarathri, Thiruvathira, and Navarathri.
* **Facilities**: The temple has basic resting areas. For extensive stays, pilgrims use nearby homestays or the devaswom hall for functions.

7. **Accommodation & Local Info**

* Budget Hotels/Homestays: * Marari Beach Homestays: Numerous budget options like Marari Byjus, Navendu Home Stay, and Om Shanthi are within 1–2 km.
* Mid-range: Camelot Hotel (near NH).
* **Donations**: Managed by the Paduthol Pazhoor Mana and local devaswom. Bank details are typically provided on-site at the office for "Annadanam" (food offerings) and temple renovation.

8. **Nearby Attractions**

* Marari Beach: Just 1 km away; one of the most peaceful beaches in Kerala.
* Arthunkal St. Andrew's Basilica: A famous historical church 8 km away.
* Thiruvizha Mahadeva Temple: Known for its medicinal "healing" rituals (5 km away).
* Alappuzha Backwaters: For houseboat cruises (11 km away).

More info

Deepening the details for your visit to the Mararikulam Sree Mahadeva Temple, **here is the expanded information on its legends, rituals, and the specific spiritual offerings available.**

1. **Legends & Spiritual Context**

The temple is rooted in **two significant legends**:

* **The Killer of Cupid (Marari):** After the self-immolation of his wife Sati, Lord Shiva entered a deep state of meditation (Samadhi). When Kamadeva (the God of Love) attempted to disturb this meditation to help Parvati win Shiva's heart, Shiva opened his third eye and burnt him to ashes. The deity here is worshipped in this "Marari" (Kamari) form—the conqueror of worldly desires.
* **The Face-to-Face Meeting**: It is believed that Goddess Parvati performed intense penance to marry Shiva. This temple is unique because the idols of Marari Mahadeva and Swayamvara Parvathy are positioned directly facing each other. This symbolizes the moment of their union, making the site exceptionally powerful for those seeking harmony in relationships.
* **Self-Originated Idols:** The main idols are said to be Swayambhu (self-manifested) and were discovered in the coastal sands centuries ago.

2. **Daily Rituals & Timings**

The temple follows a strict traditional schedule:

* Nirmalyam (4:30 AM - 5:00 AM): Seeing the deity with the previous day's flower decorations.
* Usha Pooja (6:30 AM): The morning offering.
* Ucha Pooja (10:30 AM - 11:00 AM): The main noon ritual before closing.

* Deeparadhana (6:30 PM - 6:45 PM): The evening lamp ceremony; the most visually stunning time to visit.
* Athazha Pooja (7:30 PM): The final nightly offering before the temple closes.

3. **Special Poojas & Charges (Indicative)**
The temple is a premier center for marriage-related rituals in Alappuzha. While prices are subject to change by the Devaswom, the following are the standard special offerings:

Pooja Name	Purpose	Approx. Charge (INR)
Swayamvara Pushpanjali	To remove obstacles in finding a life partner.	₹100 - ₹250
Thalicharthu	A special offering to Goddess Parvati for a happy marriage.	₹250 - ₹500
Uma Maheswara Pooja	For general family prosperity and couple harmony.	₹1,000 - ₹1,501
Maha Mrithyunjaya Homam	For health, longevity, and overcoming fear of death.	₹1,500 - ₹2,500
Dhanwanthari Pooja	Specifically for curing ailments (offered to the sub-deity).	₹150 - ₹300
Jaladhara	Continuous water offering to Shiva to cool his "Marari" heat.	₹50 - ₹150
Aravana/Palpayasam	Sweet rice offerings (Nivedyam) for the deity.	₹100 - ₹200

> **Note**: For complex rituals like Udayasthamana Pooja (dawn-to-dusk pooja), bookings must often be made months or even years in advance, with costs exceeding ₹25,000.

4. **Unique Festivals**
* **The Sea Arattu**: On the 10th day of the annual festival (Feb/March), the deity is taken in a grand procession with elephants to the Arabian Sea for a holy dip. It is believed the sea itself becomes sacred during this time.
* **Sivarathri**: Thousands of lamps are lit, and devotees stay awake all night performing Sayana Pradakshinam (rolling circumambulation).

5. **Facilities & Accommodation**

* **Dress Code:** Strictly enforced. Men must wear Mundu (Dhoti) and remove their shirts. Women should wear Saris, Set-mundu, or Salwar Kameez (with dupatta).
* **Budget Accommodation:**
  * Marari Austin Beach Villa: Clean, family-run, budget-friendly (approx. ₹1,500 - ₹2,500).
  * Marari Praveen Homestay: Very close to the temple, highly rated for pilgrims.
  * Temple Hall: For large groups or marriage parties, the temple management provides a hall at a nominal maintenance fee.

More details about festivals etc

The festivals at Mararikulam Sree Mahadeva Temple are deeply tied to the coastal landscape, offering a spectacle that is both grand and spiritually intimate.

1. **The Main Festival: Thiru Utsavam**

The annual festival lasts for 10 days and takes place in the Malayalam month of Kumbham (February/March).
* Flag Hoisting (Kodiyettu): The festival begins with the hoisting of the sacred flag, signaling the start of a period of intense spiritual activity and daily processions.
* Daily Cultural Events: During these ten days, the temple courtyard transforms into a stage for traditional arts like Kathakali, Chakyar Koothu, and Nangyar Koothu.
* Annadanam: A massive community feast (sacred food) is served to all devotees throughout the festival days.

2. **Unique Highlights & "Rathotsava" (Processions)**

While many Kerala temples have land-based processions, Mararikulam has a few distinct "items" and rituals that stand out:
* **The Sea Arattu (Holy Bath):** This is the most unique "event" of the temple. On the final day (new moon day of Kumbham), the Utsava Murti (procession idol) is not taken to a river but to the Arabian Sea. Thousands of devotees follow the deity to the shore for this ritual cleansing..
* **Vahana Procession:** During Shani Pradosha (Saturdays falling on the 13th lunar day), the Lord is taken out in a solemn procession on a silver Bull (Hrushabha). This is the local version of a "Rathotsava," where the silver mount acts as the vehicle.
* **Caparisoned Elephants**: The processions feature majestic elephants adorned with Nettipattam (golden head coverings) and traditional umbrellas (Muthukkuda), accompanied by the thunderous Panchavadyam (temple percussion).

3. **Special Rituals & Offerings**

Ritual	Significance
Sayanapradakshinam	Devotees roll on the ground around the temple on Sivarathri night—a powerful act of penance believed to fulfill deep wishes.
Aayiramkudam (1,000 Pots)	A grand ritual where 1,000 pots of water or milk are poured over the Shivalinga. This is often done as a special offering for health and prosperity.
Mahanivedhyam	A special "great offering" of food, prepared with specific traditional ingredients, offered during the peak hours of the festival.

4. **Other Key Festive Days**
* **Maha Sivarathri**: The temple remains open all night. Devotees light thousands of oil lamps (Chirappu), creating a "sea of lights" around the sanctum.

* **Thiruvathira (December/January):** Celebrated with special Kalabhabhishekam (anointing with sandalwood paste) and Pushpabhishekam (showering with flowers).
* **Navarathri**: A 21-day Parayeduppu festival is held, where the deity's presence is celebrated through specific community rituals.

A Note on Temple Entry & "Charges"

The temple is managed by the Travancore Devaswom Board.
While the "entry" is free, for special festival-time poojas like the Aayiramkudam, it is highly recommended to contact the temple office 1–2 months in advance as these are high-demand rituals.

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Before we close, **here are the anticipated festival dates for 2026** at the Mararikulam Sree Mahadeva Temple.

Since the temple follows the Malayalam lunar calendar, the dates for the major events are as follows:

1. **The Annual 10-Day Festival (Utsavam)**

The main festival is celebrated in the Malayalam month of Kumbham. Based on the 2026 calendar:
* Festival Period: Likely between February 18th and February 27th, 2026.
* The Sea Arattu: The final day (Holy Bath in the Arabian Sea) is expected to fall on or around February 27, 2026 (to coincide with the auspicious star/tithi of the month).
* What to expect: Elephant processions, Panchavadyam (percussion), and the unique ritual of the deity visiting the beach.

2. **Maha Sivarathri**

* Date: February 15, 2026 (Sunday).
* Significance: This is a massive night at the temple. Many devotees perform the Sayana Pradakshinam (rolling around the temple) on this night. The temple stays open for 24 hours with special Yaama Poojas.

3. **Thiruvathira**

* Date: January 3, 2026 (and again in December 2026).
* Significance: This is the "birthday" of Lord Shiva. It is especially important for women devotees who visit to pray for marital harmony—very significant here since Parvati faces Shiva.

4. **Other Monthly Dates**

* **Pradosham**: Occurs twice a month. The most auspicious is the Shani Pradosham (Saturday Pradosham). In 2026, keep an eye out for February 14 (just before Sivarathri) and August 22.

Quick Travel Tip for 2026:

If you plan to attend the Sea Arattu in late February, the weather will start getting warm. Try to reach the beach by 4:30 PM to catch the sunset procession—it is the most photographed and spiritually moving part of the festival.

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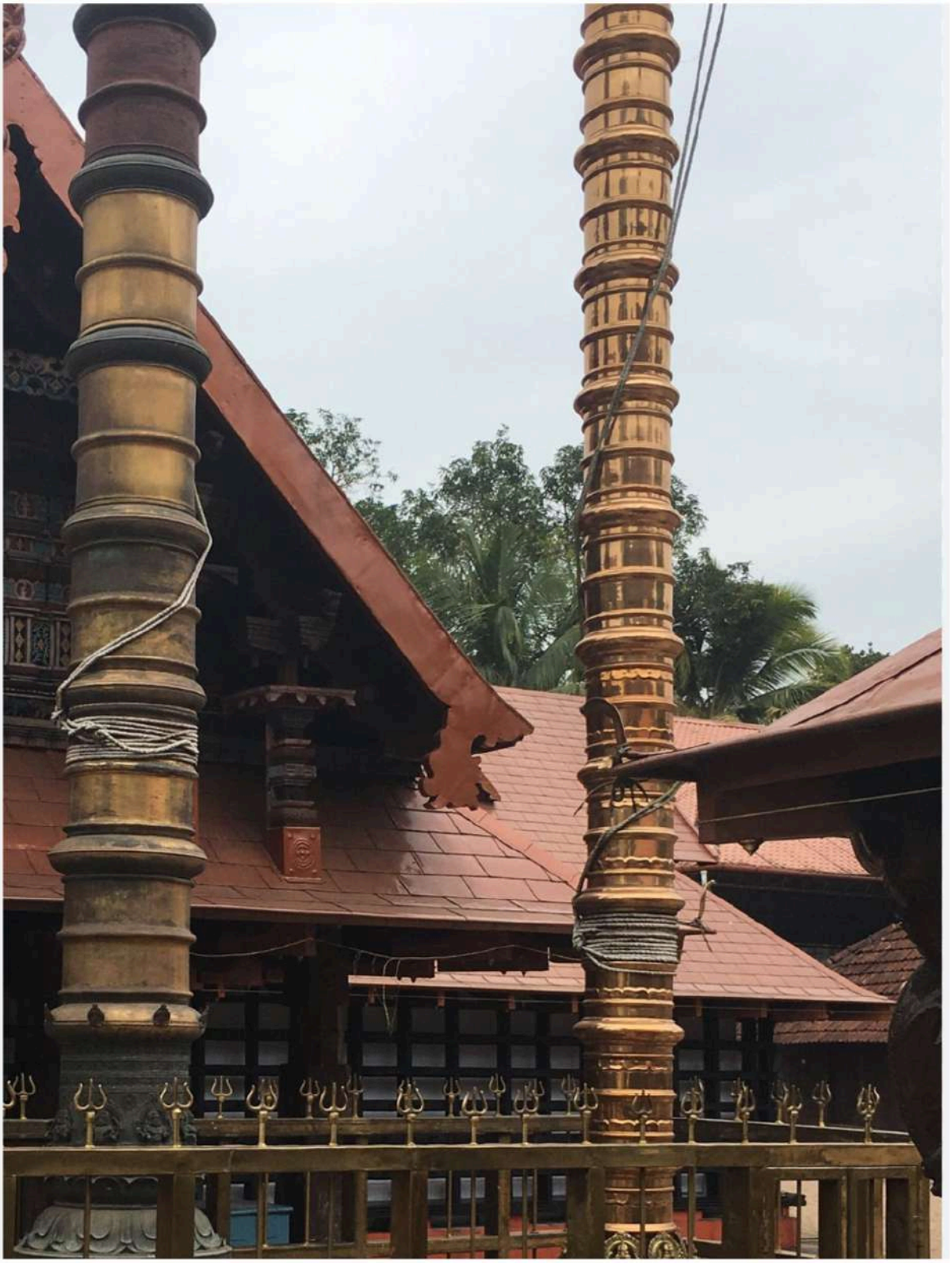
Photos



MARARIKULAM TEMPLE

holy prasad

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Videos

Maraikulam Mahadeva temple (4 min):

https://youtu.be/QB1Dv8kwa58?si=WVS_jq1YFfMIOjy0

Arattu Ghoshaystra (0.53 min): https://youtu.be/Sds_1EraUQc?si=XfT7GQ-A32ZITh1j

Mararikulam Mahadeva temple (10 min):

https://youtu.be/yFf7HGuDSKE?si=Qg0sj84s4nXRi_oA

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
March 6, 2026

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